

## **SHERIFF'S OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS JULY 2007**

### **Operating Under Intoxication (OUI) Enforcement at Lake Powell**

On Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup> Sheriff's Deputies in Page conducted an OUI checkpoint at Antelope point. This was a multi-agency effort with officers from Game and Fish, National Park Service, and Department of Public Safety also participating. Seventeen officers were present and they checked 53 watercraft vessels with a total of 275 people. Eighteen citations were issued for offenses including unregistered watercraft, no personal flotation devices (PFD),



no fire extinguisher, no Type IV (throwable) flotation, and operating under intoxication. Out of all the watercraft contacted, 35% had operators who had consumed alcohol. The average blood alcohol content for intoxicated persons was 0.145. Two arrests were made for Operating Under Intoxication.

During the checkpoint, the officers also took the opportunity to provide educational outreach through the "I got caught wearing my PFD" program in which T-shirts were handed out to children wearing their PFD's. This t-shirt program has been very successful and was funded by a grant through Supervisor Yellowman.

### **July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade**

On July 4<sup>th</sup> the Sheriff's Office participated in community celebrations across the County. We had representatives in several parades including Flagstaff, Williams, and Parks. Our Flagstaff Parade entry was a partnership with the Flagstaff Police Department and included the Tactical Operations (SWAT) Vehicle with Chief Brent Cooper and Sheriff Bill Pribil, the Flagstaff Police Bomb Truck, the Flagstaff Police DARE truck, 10 Mounted Units from the Sheriff's Office, 3 ATVs from the Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue, and 2 Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Vehicles.



### **Detention Staff Mitigates Suicidal Inmate Situation**

Recently the Detention Facility had an inmate who made several suicide attempts and also went on a hunger strike. The Intake and Medical staff successfully intervened the suicide attempts and mitigated the inmate's ability to cause further self-harm. The inmate has been eating recently, taking medication, and has agreed to talk to the psychiatrist.

### **Detention Academy**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Coconino County Sheriff's Office Detention Academy, ADA Class #61 started July 16<sup>th</sup>. We have 10 cadets, two of them from the Page Detention facility. During the next 6-weeks, the cadets will go through academic, defensive tactics, and physical fitness training. Some of the classes taught to date include: stress management, inmate supervision, security, contraband control, court room testimony, and ethics. Graduation is set for Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>.



### **Birdie Fire**

From July 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, the Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (SAR) Unit, Sheriff's Office Patrol Volunteers, and the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) supported the Incident Management Teams in charge of the Birdie Fire near Mormon Lake. SAR Volunteers evacuated dispersed campers in the area and made contacts with people in Long Park, Bert Lee Park, and Bear Park. SAR continued to support the incident with road block teams. Patrol Volunteers and CERT Volunteers also assisted with staffing roadblocks, controlling access to the fire area, and helping in the fire information call center.

SAR Volunteers put in approximately 470 hours of service and drove 1908 miles during their assignments. Patrol Volunteers put in approximately 125 hours of service and drove 1432 miles during their assignments. CERT Team members put in approximately 100 hours of service during their assignments. At the Incident Management Team close out meeting, the management team was very complimentary of the Sheriff's Office, its staff, and its volunteers.

### **Search and Rescue (SAR) Highlights**

On July 4<sup>th</sup> the Search and Rescue Unit conducted a search for an injured male on the trail system at Campbell Mesa off of Old Walnut Canyon Road. Once the subject was located, SAR assisted Flagstaff Fire Department and Guardian Medical with transporting the hiker to a waiting ambulance. There is an investigation that the injuries sustained by the hiker were the result of an assault.



On July 12<sup>th</sup> the Search and Rescue Unit conducted a search for a missing Helitack Crewmember assigned to the Birdie Fire. The crewmember was based at Ashurst Lake helibase where he began his hike. By sunset, he had not returned. Searchers made voice contact with the hiker and ultimately located him in Padre Canyon. Due to injuries, he was evacuated from the canyon by a short haul team comprised of Arizona DPS Air Rescue and a Heli-Rescue Technician from the Sheriff's Office.

On July 18<sup>th</sup> the Search and Rescue Unit responded to two separate SAR incidents occurring at the same time in the Jack's Canyon area off of Schnebly Hill. One incident involved a solo hiker who became disoriented near Committee Tank. The hiker was safely drawn to a nearby roadway by officers using sirens and other sound indicators. The second incident involved two motorcyclists who accidentally entered the wilderness area and could no longer ride their motorcycles. The motorcyclists reported that they were out of water and suffering from heat exhaustion. Despite being instructed to remain where they were and wait for rescuers to come to their location, they continued hiking and ended up safely in the Village of Oak Creek.



From July 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> SAR Coordinator Aaron Dick attended a training sponsored by the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR). The training was for Search and Rescue, Planning Section Chief for Incident Command and was held in Gunnison, CO. Sergeant Dick is now certified as a NASAR Planning Section Chief.

During the July 19<sup>th</sup> Search and Rescue General Meeting / Training, volunteers received training from Detectives Bond and Wallace on marijuana grows in the county. Training emphasized the importance of volunteers to be aware of the indicators of grow fields and the potential dangers associated with marijuana fields. This information will be valuable in helping volunteers be aware of additional personal safety issues while on searches in remote areas.

On July 27<sup>th</sup>, Coconino County Sheriff's Office SAR hosted training for the Northern Arizona State SAR Coordinators. The training was on WCASIE (Windows Computer Search Information Exchange).

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, the SAR Technical Rescue Team rescued a 13 year old hiker who was stranded on a rocky ledge on Red Mountain. The team rappelled to the boy, secured him in a harness and assisted him to a safe location. He was released to his parents who were at the scene. No medical attention was needed.

### **Oak Creek Canyon Auto Burglaries Solved**

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sheriff's Deputies and Detectives worked with Flagstaff Police Department and Metro (the Drug Enforcement Unit) to arrest several people in connection with auto burglaries in Oak Creek Canyon. Some of the burglaries date back to the end of June. Officers in the Metro Unit found credit cards in Sunnyside that were stolen during the auto burglaries. The evidence helped the multi-agency effort identify possible suspects who were then placed under surveillance. Sheriff's Deputies also made contact with a suspect near the scene of an auto burglary in Oak Creek. Through this multi-agency effort, evidence was gathered to arrest three suspects.

### **Sheriff and Work Crew Cut Wood for Food Bank**

The Northern Arizona Food Bank (NAFB) has implemented a program to provide firewood to persons in need. NAFB accepts donations of wood throughout the spring, summer and fall. Much of the wood donated is in very large round pieces, and volunteer groups help split the wood into useable pieces. This last week, the Sheriff and an Inmate Work Crew assisted the Food Bank in cutting and splitting wood.

Most of the people who receive the wood have limited incomes or are disabled or elderly. The premise of the program is that disadvantaged individuals and families should not have to choose between food, medicine and heat. Since the beginning of the program in 2001, NAFB has supplied over 829 cords of firewood free of charge. In 2006, approximately 168 families benefited from the program. This program has become so popular in the winter months between October and March that Mondays have been designated as "Wood Bank Day" at the Northern Arizona Food Bank.



**Too Broke for Sturgis Event at Mormon Lake**

The annual Too Broke for Sturgis motorcycle ride and gathering occurred at Mormon Lake July 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. “Too Broke” attracted approximately 1,200 motorcycle enthusiasts this year. The event occurred without major incident. The Sheriff’s Office responded to / initiated 25 calls for service in the Mormon Lake / Lake Mary Road corridor. Two reports were pulled by Sheriff’s Deputies; one for a motorcycle accident with injuries and one related to a DUI arrest made by GIITEM (the Gang Task Force). The Gang Task Force also had a significant presence during the event. While a few of the participants of “Too Broke” expressed a desire to have less GIITEM (Gang Task Force) presence, the law enforcement presence was well received by the community of Mormon Lake and others spending recreational time there.